



ANIMAL INDUSTRY DIVISION NEWS

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www.michigan.gov/mda

March 1, 2007

Greetings from the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry Division. This mailing contains a variety of updated materials for your review. We are remaining active in numerous disease programs and our emergency preparedness program. You will see in reviewing the enclosed materials that there are new regulations in the Bovine TB program, a new law relating to dog licensing and new opportunities for veterinarians interested in aquaculture and cervid medicine.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at 517-373-1077.

Steve Halstead, DVM, MS
Animal Industry Division, Director
State Veterinarian

Nancy Frank, DVM, MPH
Animal Industry Division, Deputy Director
Assistant State Veterinarian

VETERINARIANS WANTED

The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) is looking for veterinarians to work privately with the Aquaculture and Privately-Owned Cervidae Industries.

With the discovery of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) in the Great Lakes, testing fish for diseases in aquaculture facilities is on the rise. If you are interested in working with the aquaculture industry and becoming certified to test for VHS, please contact Vicki Marble at 517-373-8201. Information about training in Ohio is enclosed in case you may be interested.

The number of privately-owned cervidae facilities continues to grow each year in Michigan. With this rise, comes the growing need for veterinarians certified to do single cervical and slaughter surveillance testing for bovine tuberculosis. If you are interested in becoming involved with the cervid industry, please contact Melanie Brownlee at 517-241-4859.

THE MICHIGAN VETERINARY CORPS IS BEING EXPANDED

Michigan licensed and accredited veterinarians, and now licensed veterinary technicians can become Veterinary Corps (Vet Corps) team members trained to assist the Michigan Department of Agriculture in response to large scale animal health or disaster emergencies. The Vet Corps could be involved with everything from planning

and organizing activities, examining and handling animals, providing biosecurity of an area, to working on a local level with animal emergency management in a natural disaster.

Training is required and provided through MDA on advanced biosecurity, incident command system levels 100 and 200, communications systems, and includes periodic drills and exercises. Ongoing training and foreign animal disease education of at least four hours is offered yearly by MDA.

Contact MDA at 517-373-1077 to sign up and for more information.

BOVINE TB ERADICATION PROGRAM CHANGES

The Michigan cattle industry has been working on the eradication of bovine tuberculosis (TB) since it was first identified in free-ranging white-tailed deer in northern lower Michigan in 1995. The efforts of producers and veterinarians have demonstrated that the disease has not been found outside the current Modified Accredited Zone (MAZ) area. We have been successful in regaining TB Free Status in the Upper Peninsula and Modified Accredited Advanced Zone (MAAZ) status in the majority of the Lower Peninsula.

The Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture has signed into effect changes in the bovine TB eradication program in order to comply with requirements set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for pursuing TB Free Status in the current MAAZ area, and to maintain consistency with changes in the national TB eradication program. These changes will become effective March 1, 2007. A summary of the changes is included in this mailing. The full document can be obtained by calling MDA's Animal Industry Division at 517-373-1077 or can be viewed at www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases.

ELECTRONIC RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION (RFID)

Just over a year ago, the Michigan Agriculture Commission voted to mandate Electronic Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) on all Michigan cattle. The March 1, 2007 deadline is closing in fast and still applicable to all farms in Michigan. All cattle shall bear official RFID before they leave a premises. No other animal species are required to have Electronic ID.

FERAL SWINE

Feral swine are an emerging issue in Michigan as well as in many other states. The concerns about feral swine relate to disease, crop damage, and negative environmental impact.

To date, feral swine have been seen in 31 counties. Three litters of swine have been detected telling us the animals are able to live and reproduce in the wild. At this point, we do not have any indication that feral swine are carrying pseudorabies, brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis, or trichinosis. In some other states, however, disease has been identified and feral swine populations threaten the health of domestic swine.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) are actively addressing the feral swine issue. We anticipate that legislation will be needed to eliminate the problem. Meanwhile, if you or any of your clients see feral swine, please contact our office at 517-373-1077.

RABIES PROTOCOL FLOW CHART

In this packet, please find the updated Rabies Protocol Flow Chart. This document summarizes the actions to be taken when a person is exposed (bitten or scratched) to an animal as well as the actions to be taken when a dog, cat, or ferret is exposed to another animal. This document is based on the Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control which is revised yearly. Please note the following update in this revised version of the document: an unvaccinated animal which has been exposed to a rabid animal in which the owner refuses euthanasia may be vaccinated *immediately entering into a rabies quarantine* or at one month before the end of the quarantine. In addition, please note that the current document is yellow. The prior version of this document was green. Please discard the green document and only use the yellow document.

DOG TATTOO PROGRAM

Effective March 30, 2007, per Act 339, P.A. of 1919, Section 14a (The Dog Law), "When issuing a dog license pursuant to section 14, a county treasurer, city clerk, city treasurer, township treasurer, or the authorized agent of a city or township treasurer, including, but not limited to, a licensed veterinarian, an animal control shelter, or an animal protection shelter, shall also provide information to the dog owner regarding both of the following:

(a) The availability of microchip implantation and registry for dogs by a licensed veterinarian, an animal control shelter, or an animal protection shelter.

(b) The availability of a statewide tattoo identification registry for dogs maintained by the state department of agriculture."

After March 30, 2007, individuals issuing dog licenses are required to also provide information on microchipping as well as the Michigan Department of Agriculture dog tattoo program. It is up to the individual issuing the dog license to create and provide this information.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture's dog tattoo program helps reunite dog owners to their lost dogs. Tattooers approved by the Michigan Department of Agriculture tattoo dogs with a state assigned unique tattoo number in sites specified by the department. The owners of the dog pay a \$1 fee to have the owner's contact information kept in the state registry. Individuals finding an animal with a state tattoo may contact Tina Moreno at 517-241-2748 to obtain the owner's contact information. Individuals interested in becoming approved dog tattooers should contact Tina Moreno at 517-241-2748. To locate an individual approved by the department to tattoo dogs, please also contact Tina Moreno at the above listed number.

CURRENT ANIMAL INDUSTRY DIVISION PROGRAM STAFF

DR. STEVE HALSTEAD - State Veterinarian

DR. NANCY FRANK – Assistant State Veterinarian

DR. MARK REMICK – Scrapie, Field Staff Manager

KEVIN KIRK – Animal Identification

DR. MIKE VANDERKLOK – Bovine Tuberculosis

DR. ANGELA BUTLER – Reportable Diseases (Cattle, Cervids)

VACANT – Reportable Diseases (Swine, Avian, Aquaculture)

DR. PEGGY ROTH (acting) – Emergency Management

DR. MICHELE FINATERI – Licensing, Rabies

AL RODRIQUEZ – Compliance

DR. DAN GRAHAM – Atlanta Office Manager